RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 1 2 2007

USSN: 10/809,259

Atty. Docket No.: 10236A

Response to Final Rejection dated January 12, 2007

Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 14-32 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants appreciate Examiner's statement in Section 4 at page 6 of the Office Action that Applicants' arguments filed on June 12, 2006 with respect to the rejection of claims 14-32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cretekos *et al* (US 6,074,762) in view of Park *et al* (US 4,632,869), as it applies to the amended claims 14-32, are found persuasive.

RESPONSE TO REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Referring to Section No. 3 at pages 2-5 of the Office Action, Claims 14-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,074,762 ("Cretekos '762") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,632,869 ("Park").

In response to the current §103 rejection, Applicants submit herewith a Rule 131 Declaration dated January 12, 2007. The Declaration demonstrates that Applicants are entitled to an invention date prior to the issue date of Cretekos '762. Accordingly, the Declaration removes Cretekos '762 as a prior art reference under §102(a).

With respect to Cretekos '762 as a reference for obviousness derived from §102(e)/§103, Applicants state the following:

Application 10/809,259 and Patent 6,074,762 were, at the time the invention of Application 10/809,259 was made, owned by ExxonMobil Chemical Company.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the present §103 rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the examiner feels may be

USSN: 10/809,259 Atty. Docket No.: 10236A

Response to Final Rejection dated January 12, 2007 Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2006

best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 12, 2007

Keith A. Bell

Registration No. 30,023

Post Office Address (to which correspondence is to be sent)
ExxonMobil Chemical Company
Law Technology
P.O. Box 2149
Baytown, Texas 77522-2149
Telephone No. (281) 834-2307
Facsimile No. (281) 834-2495